Development of coal resources in Orissa

592. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken by Government for the development of coal resources in Orissa;

(b) what are the schemes drawn up for that purpose during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(c) which are the coal mines identified in that State for modernisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) The geologically proved reserves of coal in IB Valley and Talcher coalfields in Orissa are over 5,000 million tonnes. Apart from undertaking further regional and detailed exploration to establish and prove additional coal reserves in Orissa, detailed exploration is also being undertaken by agencies like the CMPDI, MEC and the Mining Directorate of the State Government for identification of specific mining blocks and preparation of geological reports and detailed project reports. To facilitate exploration and development of coalfields in Orissa, a new Regional Institute has been created within CMPDI and a separate unit within the South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. has been set up at Bhubaneswar.

(b) and (c) Schemes/projects under formulation during the Seventh Five Year Plan are given below:—

Coalfield	Name of Mine	Ultimate production capacity (in MTY)
1	2	3
IB Valley	1. Samaleswari OC	3·00
	2. Gopalpur OC	5·00
	3. Lakhanpur OC	5·00
	4. Lilari OC	0·80
	5. Belpahar II OC	0·60
Talcher	1. Ananta OC	4·00
	2. Kalinga OC	8 00
	3. Lingraj OC	6 00
	4. Gopal Prasad OC	5·00
	5. Ananta UG	1·00

The underground mines will deploy modern longwall mining technique; opencast mines will also involve greater degree of mechanisation so as to achieve higher productivity.

Non-Conventional sources of energy potential in the country

593. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a vast potential for solar, wind, biogas, and biomass energy sources in the country;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government for exploring these non-conventional energy sources; and

(c) what programme has been drawn up therefor during the Seventh Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources have taken steps to intensify research and Development to undertake demonstration projects and to support large scale extension activities in respect of matured technologies such as bio-gas, solar energy, wind energy etc. threughout country.

The State Governments/nodal agencies, public institutions and voluntary organisations have been actively involved in these programmes which have become popular and effective particularly in rural areas where they have been taken up. These

programmes are being extended throughout the country to extendt fianancil resources are made available during the Seventhe Five Year Plan. Intensification of research and development efforts is also underway towards inprovment in performance of systems and devices as also the cost effectiveness of such devices.

Clearance of manuguru thermal powers project

594. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:
SHRI M. A. BABY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 421 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th December, 1987 and state:

(a) whether Government propose to take expeditious steps to clear the Manuguru Thermal Power Project in Andhra Pradesh in view of the acute shortage of power in the Southern region; and

(b) what are the impediments for the expeditious clearance of the Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) and (b) The National Thermal Power Corporation have prepared a feasibility report in regard to the proposed Manuguru Super Thermal Power Project Stage I. Coal linkage for the proposed project is yet to be established. According to an assessment of production from M/s Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL), from which the coal requirements of the project were proposed to be met, it would not be possible to consider any further linkages from M/s. SCCL upto the year 1994-95.

Clearance of coolur tube project of the A.P.E.C.L.

595. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken to clear the colour tube project proposal of the Andhra Pradesh Electronic Corporation Limited, and

(b) what are the reasons for the delay in clearing the project?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) An application from M/s. Andhra Pradesh Electronic Corporation Ltd. for grant of a letter of intent to set up capacity for manufacture of colour TV picture tubes has been received. The techno-economic parameters of the proposal, such as evaluation of technology, demand supply gap, imports of capital goods etc. are being examined.

Production of electricity from Godavari Gas Basin

596. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken to commercially utilize the natural gas output of Godavari Basin; and

(b) what steps would be taken by Government to produce electricity from natural gas of Godavari basin in view of the acute shortage of power in the Southern region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Presently in the K-G basin about 10,000 M3 per day of gas is being produced and supplied by ONGC to M/s. Delta Paper Mill. ONGC have tied up nine more consumers including Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board, and for supplying gas to these consumers, a pipeline from Narsapur with branch lines to Kovvur is being laid.

(b) The Government have already committed 0.4 lakh cubic metres per day of gas to APSEB for their proposed gas-based power plant.